

CITY OF CORAL GABLES
CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING AND CULTURAL WORKSHOP
Wednesday, August 19, 2009, 3:00 p.m. (Board Meeting); 4 p.m. (Workshop)
Coral Gables Commission Chambers
City Hall, 405 Biltmore Way, Second Floor

EXCERPTS

MEMBERS	S	O*	O**	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	A#	COMMISSIONERS
José R. Garrigó	P	P	E	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	E	P	Mayor Donald D. Slesnick II
Bobbi Litt	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	E	Vice Mayor William Kerdyk, Jr.
Dr. Bernice Matalon-Roth	E	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Maria Anderson
Dr. Carol Damian	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	Commissioner Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr.
Beatriz Pereira	P	P	P	P	-	P	P	E	P	P	P	P"	Commissioner Wayne "Chip" Withers
Andrea Cole	P	P	P	P	-	A	P	P	P	P	P	P	Board Appointee
Ginger Jochem >				-						P	P	P	City Manager

A = Absent
P = Present
E = Excused
- = No Meeting
^ = Resigned Member
> = New Member
" = Arrived at 3:30 p.m.

* FY2007-2008 Final Reports
Regular Meeting + FY2009-2010 Grants Workshop
** FY2008-2009 Cultural Grant Applications Review & Scoring

Regular Board Meeting Guests: Patrick Barthet, Linda Eneix, Betsy Adams, Evelyn Budde, Sergio Leymarie, Russell Ettling

V. Donation Proposal – Althea Merrick sculpture - by Betsy Adams and Evelyn Budde, Garden Club:

Ms. Adams stated the Coral Gables Garden Club's ongoing mission to engage in projects that support the vision of George Merrick, citing \$1.2 million raised to support the Club's adopt-an-entrance project that resulted in construction of three City entrances and the Merrick statue in front of City Hall. Their intent at this meeting was to seek the Board's endorsement of a project to design, fund and donate a life-sized bronze statue of Althea Merrick seated on a bench in her garden at Merrick House.

Ms. Adams displayed photographs of Mrs. Merrick to demonstrate their ideas about how the statue might be designed. She said The American Bronze Foundry in Sanford, Florida, had a sculptor who could produce the statue.

She and Ms. Budde sought Board endorsement prior to presenting the project to the City Commission. As 2010 will mark Merrick House's 100th anniversary, with specific celebrations being planned for each month of the year, there is some urgency if the statue is to materialize. The cost is estimated at \$40,000, and completion time is estimated at three months.

Board members expressed enthusiasm about the project, and noted that this would be a private donation, not subject to the Art in Public Places program under development. Once the imagery and proposal is secured, the project would be reviewed by the Arts Advisory Panel, after which it would come back to the Board for a recommendation prior to presentation to the Commission.

Ms. Cole made a motion to recommend support for the Althea Merrick sculpture proposed by the Coral Gables Garden Club, and to urge that all necessary action be taken to expedite the various approval processes in time for Merrick House's 100th anniversary.

Ms. Cathers said the project would next be reviewed by the Merrick House Advisory and Historic Preservation boards, and upon completion, may be proposed to the CDB for acceptance into the public art collection. For the record, Dr. Damian made the applicants aware that the Public Art Master Plan and Art in Public Places Ordinance were under integration development, and expressed hope that the process could be facilitated.

Ms. Jochem seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.